

Amendment to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-9, 11-13, and 16 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 10, 14, and 15 as follows.

Claims 1-9 (canceled)

10. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 9, A method for automatically detecting~~
unwanted messages in real time in a system that includes a message server for routing
incoming message files to a directory, the method comprising the steps of:
accessing said directory and for identifying said message files;
locating any of an address-of-origin, subject, or other specified criteria within
each said message file;
identifying whether each said message file should be considered spam;
separating said spam and non-spam message files logically; and
any of physically moving and renaming said message files in a predetermined
fashion;
wherein said accessing step further comprising the steps of:
reading a RecentFileList from a RecentFile; and
loading said RecentFileList into a RecentListArray;
wherein if a BypassFileList is included, reading said BypassFileList into a
BypassArray;
wherein said locating step further comprising the steps of:
creating a NewListArray;
opening said message files;
extracting message addresses of a sender as defined in any of
MailInDirName, AddrLineLocator, and AddrInfoLocator fields;
loading said NewListArray with new message sender addresses and
associated file names;
setting an arrival time for all records in said NewListArray;
combining said NewListArray into said RecentListArray;
marking new records as IsNew = True; and
sorting said RecentListArray by message sender addresses;
wherein said identifying step further comprising the steps of;

28 determining the age of a message sender address based upon a
29 SecondsThreshold when a message sender address is retrieved from said
30 RecentListArray;
31 if said message file is older than said threshold, marking said message file as
32 IsExpired = True by Seconds Threshold;
33 determining whether said message sender address occurs more often than a
34 SourceThreshold allows;
35 optionally, if yes, examining said message sender address to determine if it is
36 to be passed anyway because it is identified in said BypassArray; and
37 marking said message file as IsSpam = True if said message file exceeds
38 said SourceThreshold, and said SecondThreshold has not timed out, and optionally said
39 message file is not listed in said BypassArray.

Claims 11-13 (canceled)

1 14. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 11-A~~ method for automatically
2 detecting unwanted messages in real time in a system that includes a message server
3 for routing incoming message files to a directory, the method comprising the steps of:
4 receiving a message file at a host system;
5 routing said message file to said directory;
6 writing said message file with a prefix and/or suffix that allows it to be identified
7 as a new message;
8 identifying all message files in said directory that are spam; and
9 any of renaming and moving said message files;
10 wherein said method requiring requires minimum implementation parameters
11 which comprise:
12 a path and/or name of a recent file;
13 a path and/or name of a bypass file;
14 an incoming mail directory;
15 a directory and/or file name suffix for non-spam mail;
16 a directory and/or file name suffix for spam mail;
17 a number of seconds to accumulate information before clearing it;
18 a number of occurrences of any one address to allow within a value; and
19 a string for which to search within each file processed to determine if said
20 string should contain an address; wherein only a first occurrence of a locator within a file
21 is evaluated.

1 15. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 11.~~ A method for automatically
2 detecting unwanted messages in real time in a system that includes a message server
3 for routing incoming message files to a directory, the method comprising the steps of:
4 receiving a message file at a host system;
5 routing said message file to said directory;
6 writing said message file with a prefix and/or suffix that allows it to be identified
7 as a new message;
8 identifying all message files in said directory that are spam; and
9 any of renaming and moving said message files;
10 said method implementation parameters optionally comprising:
11 partial file names to be excluded from processing; wherein any file including a
12 specific string specified is excluded from processing;
13 partial file names to be included in processing; wherein only files including a
14 string specified are processed;
15 a suffix for processed non-spam files (SetRenameSuffix); only optional if
16 SetDestinationDirName is defined[.];
17 a destination directory path for non-spam files;
18 a suffix for processed spam files;
19 a destination directory path for spam files; and
20 a string defining what should be considered an address within a line
21 previously identified.

Claim 16 (canceled)